(b) what steps Government are taking to correct this injustice to farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The Uruguay Round Agreement on Agriculture requires calculation of product specific and non-product specific Aggregate Measurements of Support (AMS) for the base period (1986—88) only and not for subsequent years. The requisite information in respect of the base period is contained in the schedule of commitments to the GATT, a copy of which is available in the Parliament Library. This Ministry has not made any calculation of AMS beyond the base period.

Marketing of Indian Books in Foreign Countries

4330. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India has become a dumping ground for foreign scientific, technical and medical books ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Indian Books are cheaper yet foreign booksellers are reluctant to stock them ;

(c) whether Government have identified the reasons of the same and if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) what incentive Government propose to give to boost their sales in foreign countries ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Foreign scientific, technical and medical books are allowed to be imported into India.

(b) and (c) As per available information, foreign booksellers for historical reasons do not favour Indian publications and continue to promote western publications. Therefore, despite Indian books being cheaper, booksellers in developed countries are reluctant to stock and sell Indian books.

(d) Under the Export-Import Policy, 1992—97, export of books and publications are allowed freely, Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) is granted to the Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council, Calcutta, annually which also helps to boost the export of books and publications. No special dispensation is granted to any industry in this regard.

Agricultural and Drug Price increase due to GATT ACCORD

4331. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that according to an OECD report agricultural prices are likely to rise by four to seven per cent and drug prices by 14 to 16 per cent due to the implementation of the GATT accord ; and

(b) if so, what steps Government intend to take to contain this projected rise in prices ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The OECD study entitled 'Assessing the effects of the Uruguay Round' does not deal with the likely increase in prices of agricultural products and drugs due to the implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreement.

(b) The Uruguay Round Agreement does not impose any restrictions on the use of price control measures which may be resorted to incase of an increase in prices.

Resentment of ESCAP Members on Social issue condition at I.T.A.

4332. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY :
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE :
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the resent 50th Ministerial session of ESCAP, a number of member countries including South Korea, Malaysia, Bangladesh and Hongkong displayed solidarity with India in assailing the attempts being made by some developed countries to put out social issues of environment and labour standards at the International Trade Agenda ;